

-INTERVIEW WITH RUBE MARQUARD (1963)

R How did you first get into baseball?

M Well, I'll tell you. I used to love to play baseball, and I had to run away from home to start. My dad didn't want baseball ...he said baseball players are no ~~you~~ good, you see. You see, there were five children in the family. Four boys and one girl, and my sister was the ^{shortest} ~~smallest~~ one, she grew up to.....my youngest brother was 6'5 and my sister was 6'3. He was going to give us all an education. And when we grew up and I wanted to become a ballplayer, he says, ballplayers are no good, I can't understand why you want to be a ballplayer.

R That was when...about 1905?

M No, I was with the Giants in 1908, when I was 17 years old, with the NY Giants. And the fall of 1908 , my birthday, ninth of October, I became 18 years old. I was the first ball player that was ever sold to a major league, for \$11,000.

R That was a lot of money, in those days.

M An awful lot of money in those days. I was the first ballplayer to be sold. And when my dad found out, well..... I was

I was in trouble with him from when I was a kid, you know. Every year it was the same thing. When I got to be about 15 years old I was so enthused about becoming a ballplayer...my dad says, now listen, one thing or the other. He says, I'm going to send you to college when you're through with the high school....~~and~~ ^{and} you'll be somebody. He says, if you haven't got an education when you get older, he says, you can't get a job anyplace. I says, I've already got a job: He says, you've got a job? What are you doing? I said I'm goig to be a ballplayer. He says You be a ballplayer? What do you mean? You goig to make a living being a ballplayer? I says, yes. I says, ballplayers make good. He says, I don't understand why a grown up man would put a uniform on and wear those funny looking suits, he says. I says, well, you see people with overalls on and things like that who change after they're through working...well, it's the same way with ballplayers. And do they get paid? I says, yes, they get paid.

R Where was this?

M In Cleveland, Ohio. I was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio.

R I always thought that since you're name was Rube that

you were a country boy.

M Well, my name is Richard. In 1908 I was with Indianapolis, that's the American Association. And Smokey Joe Wood, that was sold from Kansas City to the Boston Team and I was with Indianapolis. Kansas City was in Indianapolis for the opening of the season. So he and I pitched. I beat him 2 - 1. And that night, the sports editor of the Indianapolis Star came out after the game and says, Well, we had a wonderful ball game here in Indianapolis. The opening day of the season and these two young pitchers, one a right hander and one a left hander. And the man with Kansas City, he looks like he's going to develop into a great pitcher long before the season is over, but we have on our home team a left hander that looks like he's going to ^{develop} blossom into a great pitcher. Pitching now in the big leagues, was Rube Waddell. So they nicknamed me Rube. That was 1908, when I was 17 years old, in the American Association. And the first year in professional ball, I pitched 48 full games, and I won 28 of them. So we were very excited, and I was sent to the big league. When I left home....

R What did your father think when you did so well that first year?

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liked it
M Well, no he never ~~left~~...he didn't change. And many times, when we'd play at Columbus, that's a short interurban street car from Cleveland, I had some friends/^{from Cleveland}would come to see me play and talk about my family and I'd say, my dad he don't like baseball for anything. So, every time we'd go by to see him, they'd say, well, we see your boy won another game. And when they nicknamed me Rube, they'd all tell him, his name was Fred, they'd say, well, Fred, how about Rube, did you see where Rube won another game? And he'd say, Rube who? He says, I told him not to play baseball, he says, now they've changed his name.

R How did you get interested in playing ball. Usually a players father is very interested in the game....

M None of us, in the family were, but myself. I just liked it. And when I went to Indianapolis...well, let's see...I worked for an ice cream company in Cleveleand and I would pitch on the semi-pro team there and the Cleveland scouts looked me up. Any time they'd see me pitch, they'd recommend me and the next time I'd pitch, andother scout would see me and rate me even more highly than the first one did. So I got a postal card from the Cleveland ball club in the American League, Mr. Gilfoil, he was the owner of the

Cleveland team. He wanted to see me. But my dad received the postal card and he says, I see you still want to play baseball. I says, ~~yess~~ that's what I'm going to do. I don't know what team I'll play with but I'll be in the big league: American League or National League and you'll be proud of me. Well, he says, proud of nothang, he says. Ballplaying means nothing. So, I got \$25 a week with the ice cream company, \$15 a week for checking the cans on the truck that would take the ice cream away and \$10 a Sunday, when I pitched. So I went to this Cleveland office to see Mr. Gilfoil. I says, I've received this postal card, I says. You know you got me in a little jam, I says, my dad don't like baseball. Oh, he says, after you sign up with the Cleveland club, he'll like it. I says, I'm not going to sign until I know what you're offering. So, he says, you know we have four scouts and every time you pitched one rated you better than the first one. And you're a gOUNG boy and when you grow up you'll be able to play in the big league. He says, you have the makings of a great pitcher. Oh, I says, still I haven't fount out... you know I pitched with Bill Bradley's Boo Gang. Bill bradley was one of the greatest third basemen who ever lived. He was on the Cleveland ball club and when the season would be over, he'd take

the ballplayers and barnstorm in all the towns outside of Cleveland. And I would be their pitcher, and I says, Mr. Gilfoil, well, it's true, I said, you know when I played with those fellows in the fall of the year they always tell me, now young fella don't you sign up when youre young without getting a good salary. Mr. Gilfoil, they all tell me that if you don't get it when you're young, you don't get it when you're old. So he says, well, we'll just think about it. ~~xixxaysx~~ He says, we'll treat you right. I says, all right, let's hear it. He says, you're smart, young fella. We were all small ballplayers, all the old timers. So , he says, Mr. Somers and I , we felt we'd offer you a good contract. We would give you \$100 a month for the first year and if you make good, we'd give you \$200. Well, I says, Mr. Gilfoil...just then Sumers came in. I was introduced to him. He says, Harry, I just told the boy, Marquard , about this contract. We offered him a wonderful salary. \$100 a month if he makes good, why we'll give him \$200 next year. he'll be over- He says, I think that...~~xxhxxixxx~~ paid. I says, well, Mr. Somers, over- you think I'll get ~~xxixpaid~~? Well I pitch for Fannings' Ice Cream I says, we play the strongest baseball, amateur, in Cleveland. I pitch for them and I'm very fortunate, I can beat anybody that I

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face. I says, I've got it in my mind that if I pitch against Cleveland I could beat Cleveland. Well, he looked at me. I says, I get almost what you offer me from the ice cream company and I get to eat all the ice cream I want, too. Well, when I didn't sign with them, I ran into this old ballplayer named Charlie Carr. Now Charlie Carr was the manager of Indianapolis and Bill Bradley and he, they had a sporting goods store and in the fall all the ballplayers would come in and tell what kind of a season they had, tell a lot of lies about what they did and what they didn't do and all this that and the other. So ~~they~~^{it} got around ~~to~~ that I got a postal card from the Cleveland club. Well, big leaguer, did you sign, ~~to~~ they asked? No, I says, why should I sign. And Charlie Carr says, why should you...don't you want to be a big leaguer. Yes, I said, but I get more money with the ice cream company pitching than I was offered here in Cleveland. He says, you nknow, I manage Indianapolis. Well he, says, how'd you like to sign up with Indianapolis. Well, I says, if you can pay me what I want, I says, you're in the wrong league. And, I says, the Cleveland club didn't want to pay more than I get now, and you can't offer me better than that. He says, how much do you want. Well, I says, I want \$200 a month. He laughed

and said, you want all the money. I says, you want a good pitcher?
He says , yes. I says, well, I'm one. So I signed a contract and
that year I pitched 48 ball games and won 28 of them and in my mind
I could beat anybody I pitched against. And Smokey Joe Wood, the old
timer, remember him, he was a kid ~~sixix~~, I was 16 days older than
he was. When he was warming up, I called over to him, I says, Saturday,
If I was you I wouldn't warm up now....I'm going to beat you.
No matter who was playing in that game, I could beat them, that
was in my mind. It wasso all through the year. And joe and I
we never come in contact , he was sold to the Boston ball club and
I was sold to the Giants and we didn't come in contact with one
another again till 1912, in the ~~World~~ World Series. As we met at
the ballclub, I was ^{in the dugout} ~~sitting down~~, putting on my shoes and I say
Joe ~~xxxxxxx~~ with a bat, standing at the batting cage, he wanted
to hit. He was the pitcher that day. So, Bill Carrigan, you know,
Hooper, Speaker and Lewis and all the ballplayers standing around
and I walked up to Joe, ad I says, Joe, how are you. He says, look
who[s here. I haven't seen you since 1908, when we opposed one
another. I says, you know what the score was? He put his hands on
his ears. I says, I'm going to beat you today. So, Bill Carrigan,

the manager of the Boaston Club, he says, who's that so ~~and~~ and so, says he's going to beat you? He says, that's a very old firend of mine, they guy I was talking about in the clubhouse. He can beat anybody he even pitches against. The score was 2 - 1 in Indianapolis in 1908, in 1912 I beat him that day, 2 - 1! And two days, or three days later, I was at the Polo Grounds, I pitched against him and he's standing against the batting cage and I says, well, he put his hands over his ears, and I beat him, too , that game. Won two games out of the series.

M That was the year, wasn't it that you won the 19, some say you won 20.

R Yes, it was. It was 20 games. I was just looking it up. I had to pitch a game against Bklyn and we led 3 - 0 in the first part of teh 8th inning. Bklyn came in and that was 4, 3, 2 and he walked a bouple of men, no, he hit a man and walked two of them. Two were on base. ^{4 nobody out} McGraw ~~put~~ took him out and put me in to pitch. And Buck Weaver and Jake Daubert, two of the leading hitters of Bklyn came up to bat, and I struck out the two left handers and the other let out a fly pop to ~~xxxxx~~ retire the side. So in the last inning, the ninth inning, when we came to bat, our catcher, Wilson, get a

got a home run. Well, the rule was that any pitcher who pitched the longest game, over the most innings got credit for the ~~game~~ ^{win}. And ^{getting} back ~~in~~ ^{to} the American Association I told Charlie, you pay me the \$200 and you can have a good pitcher. So we got to Columbus, Ohio and he ~~g~~ told ~~me~~, he says, Rube, there'll be an awful lot of celebrities in the ball game. The American League and the National League ^{have a day off and they} ~~are~~ all coming to see you pitch because you're the talk of the world! You're the best pitcher we have in the American Association and you're only 18 years old. If you can pitch a good game, I may be able to ^{sell} ~~see~~ you. I says, how much. I don't know, he says, it depends on what kind of a game you pitch. I says, will you cut me in? Naw, he says, you're ~~getting~~ your salary and satisfied what we paid you. I says, yes, but this is different. So, he says, you're the pitcher today. Rube, I'm telling you this, I don't want you to get ~~new~~ nervous. I says, Nervous? Have I ever got nervous all season? No, he says, but I been in baseball a long time and I never saw a kid as fresh as you are, who could beat anybody and be so successful. I says, well, the reason I'm so successfull is because I can beat every[
body. So the game started. And when the game was over, we beat Columbus 4 - 0: no hits, no runs, no errors. I got them out without

a hit. So, when we got back to the clubhouse, I says to Charlie,
I says, well Charlie. ^I ~~He~~ says, you know I told you payig \$200
you're going to get a good pitcher and you got one. He says, I
never saw anything like it. How do you feel? I says, just like
pitching, that's all. So, that night, I was sold for \$11,000
to the New York Giants. And the Cleveland club, they got into this
auction, you know its just like a horse auction, they auction you
off, and Cleveland went as high as \$10,500 for my release, but the
NY Giants went to \$11,000, so I was sold to them.

I was very successful, and my dad , after I wa s sold for \$11,000
all the newspaper men that came along with the American League and
the National League owners and everybody , I gave them my address
in Cleveland. So they went to be e my dad. Now, he couldn't catch
a ball to save his likfe. So they went to him and wanted pictures
and to talk to him. And he had a mustouche, one of these that had
the points, you know, soaped at the ends. So that asked ~~nx~~ him
about him playing, and everything...wanted to know if he ever played
ball when he was young. So he says, nope, he says, I'll tell you,
when I was a youngster, I loved to play baseball, but I never did
get as good as my son Richard. He says, Richards, but I should say,

Rube, he says, I know, they nicknamed him Rube. They came out with the story, the newspapers, that he couldn't pitch as well as I could. Well, anyway, he used to write to me, and he told me when I went to Indianapolis, he said, when you cross that threshold and go to play baseball and become a ballplayer, don't come back. I said, you don't mean that. Yes I do, he says. Well, I says, I'm going, and you're going to be proud of me. I says, I 'm going to be the top of the world, you'll see. I says, you'll be proud of me. He says, no, I don't like baseball and you're just breaking my heart. I says, no I'm not going to break your heart, I'm going to add more years to your ~~xxx~~ life, I says, you're going to be proud of me. Well, anyway, I started baseball. Well, about 15 years later, I was pitching a game against Boston, I was with the Brklyn club, and outside were about 35,000 people. I pitched the first game and I beat Boston 2 - 1. I was in the clubhouse, taking off my shoes and getting dressed, when the ball boy comes in. Rube, he says, there's an elderly gentlemen out there wants to see you. Says he's from Cleveland. Says he's your dad. * Nah, not my dad, I says, my dad wouldn't go across the street to see ~~me~~ me play ball. But you go out and get his autograph book and bring it in and I'll

autograph it for him. So he went out and in comes my dad with the ball boy. He says, Gee, you're ~~hear~~ hard-headed! I ~~sax~~ says, what about you , dad, you're a hard-head, too. ~~Exiled~~ You said I'd be a baseball bum and all that, what do you think about it now? Oh no, he says, I didn't realize you was that good. I says, I told you I was that good. So, I says, where were you sitting. Why didn't you tell me you were here? He says, well, I didn't want to make you nervous. I says, there's 35, 000 people out there and they didn't make me nervous, I said. Where were you sitting? He says, I was sitting, you know the man that has the funny thing around his head, and when the batter hits the ball he runs down to number one man. The first base? Yeah, he says, well, I was sitting in the middle there. I says, did you see me pitch. He says, yeah. Well, I says, what about it. I says, how many ball games have you seen since I started. He says, this is the first one.

R What did he do? What was his business?

M He was the Chief Engineer of the City of Cleveland.

He didn't think baseball was anythig. At that time they trained in barrooms and everything and I'm a few years old now and I never took a drink to this day. The only bad habit I had when I was playing

was I chewed gum, that was all.

Yeah, I've seen somany great stars...you know I've always said you can't burn a candle at both ends. You want to be a ballplayer be a ballplayer, if you want to go out and carouse and chase around, do that. I say you can't do them both at the same time, so I made up my mind that I was going to be a star and I stayed in NY for 19 years, with Bklyn and the Giants.

R Did you like NY

M I loved it. ~~They used to talk to me~~ I made so many friends in every game I played.

R You were the toast of New York.

M ~~why~~ Well, at one time I was. I can walk down broadway, now and every block there's someone, You been away, haven't seen you.. No matter where I was going. I got a letter today from Hamburg , Germany , right here.

R You pitched with Christy Matthewson

M Oh, yes. He was my roommate for 9 years on the road. Oh he taught me a lot of things. Talk about different players that had speed. I had terrific speed. I pitched many a time ...well, I pitched a game against the Chicago Cubs, I don't know

whether you know these players or not: Evers, Tinkers, Chance and all them. We were playing in Pittsburgh. I beat a left hander by the name of Cooper. Then they came to the Polo Grounds and I opposed three finger brown. That was a good ball game for me. I beat them 3 - 0. And Sam Crane, the sports editor of the American Journal , he went down to the clubhouse and talked to John McGraw. Mac, he says, he tells you this,no...Rube, he says, I just went over the clubhouse and saw Frank Chance and I talked about Cooper and you. Now Cooper is all right, he says, bu Rube...well, you can't hit anything you can't see. I threw about three curve balls that whole day, because the ~~shwz~~ shadow of Coogan's Bluff coming down ...I always pitched out of the shadows, make it hard for the batter. And I was out there pitching at batting practice and the catcher comes over and says, Move over Rube on this side of the rubber. You can't see the ball. I'd mark it with my spikes and when I'd pitch against opposing batters, I'd pitch out.....(unintelligible)

Yeah, I pitched the longest game in history.

R That was in 1915, right?

M 1915, yes. In 1915, I pitched against Chicago against

against Jim Vaughn, on a Sunday. There was about 30, 000 or 35,000 people at the ball park ~~xx~~ the old West Side Park. And they had ground rules: ~~xxxxxx~~ the crowd was out in the outfield there and mounted police had to keep the people from running on the infield. And the ground rule was: that any fly ball hit into the crowd was a two-base hit. Not a base on balls on either side and there wasn't a fly ball hit in the crowd! There wasn't a fly ball hit on either side! And we went from Chicago to Pittsburgh and I could catch my breath . And charlie Doyle, sports editor of the Pittsburgh Dispatch, he come out there with, "The new York Giants are here for a four day series. He wrote, Rube Marquard pitched the first day in Chicago and beat them 1 - 0, with^{out}/a two-base hit on either side . ~~Today~~ Tomorrow, he opposed, let's see, the Pirates, yes, Babe Adams. He says, the Pirates cannot beat Rube.That's the difference between today's game and..... tomorrow ~~xxx~~ we'd have Matthewson, Tesereau....you know, before ~~xxx~~ we were on that field, McGraw would pick out his pitcher , catcher and he 'd hand you a program. And you'd get up in front of all the players and tell how you would pitch to every individual so the players would know where and how to play each pitch. So I got up

and I says, get me one run, and we may win the ball game. I says, Babe is a tough guy to hit, too. So, McGraw says, you hear what Rube said there? One run. Well, Larry Doyle, the captain of the team, says, Huh, we'll get you a dozen. I says get me one of the dozen. Well, we had out batting practice, and everything and the game started. It was nothing to nothing, nine innings. I says, where's the run, now, ^{Doyle.} He says, well, we'll get it for you. I says, well, you better hurry up, I says, you know I'm no double header pitcher. So we went nothing to nothing -- eighteen innings. So with the first ball of the eighteenth inning, he came up to bat and he got a double. So McGraw says, hey there's that one run you were hollering about. I was still in there. At the last half of the 18th inning, they tied it up one to one. So it went for 20 innings and I'm still in there. Babe Adams was still in there. So in the 21st ining, Larry Doyle comes up hits a line drive to Carey, the outfielder, and he don't go down far enough and the ball goes through his legs for a home run. And as he runs around third base, he yells, Why you so and so, you been hollering about that one run and here it is! So we won it 2 - 1. Ten days later the pittsburgh team was at the Polo Graounds and the comments in

in the newspapers was, Well the Pirates are here and Adams is anxious to meet Marquard. He's very anxious to beat Rube. And believe it or not, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ I came out and pitched 25 innings and beat him 6 - 5. That's in the record too.

R A 25 inning game.

M yes, 25 inning game. 10 days later. After the 21 inning game, ⁱⁿPittsburg^e, we were staying at the grand old Schenley Hotel. Matty , Tessereau and I. McGraw and Sam Crane, the sports editor were sitting down by ~~xxxxxxxx~~ themselves, and I heard McGraw say to Crane, Sam whats the attraction over there. He says, I've been talking to you and all the time you're looking over there. He says, yes, I'm looking at Rube. He says, he just pitched a 21 inning game and he looks as fresh as a daisy. I can't understand it. He says, here, all I done is push a pencil all day and I'm all tired out. He says, would you like to hear somethig? He says, there's a fella that never says no. He'll pitch anytime I ask him to. He loves baseball. He says, now think of thas. He pitched a 21 inning game: 3 hours and some minutes and If Iask him, will you go tommorow, will you pitch tomorrow, he'd say, why yes.

Well, I never had a sore arm. Never. We never had any trainer....

well, we had a trainer, but after we'd get through pitching we'd ask him to ~~xxxxx~~ ^{rub} it with alcohol, he'd ~~say~~ take a little in his hand and just sprinkle it on. ~~Now,xxxx~~ Now, they've got ~~trainers~~ and they get bellyaches and all this and that.

We were playing Pittsburgh in the Polo Grounds and Honus Wagner slid into second base and the staple that held the bag down broke and slit his ~~kn~~ from his knee to here. And that's how deep that cut was. And all the players got around him and patted tobacco on it. And in our clubhouse, our doctor put in 22 stitches". And a few minutes later, he was ready to play,

Chief Meyers was my catcher. Of course Bresnahan was the originator of the shin guards about 1903 or something like that. We wore, what we called a motorman glove. It was almost like a kid glove. Now the infielders and everybody got those big..... A week ago, when I was out there, I borrowed a left-hander's glove. It had five fingers in it....six fingers...It was so big you could slap it around there and the ball comes in .

R What did you have? A pancake, almost.

M Yeah. Practically nothing at all. And the catcher, Chief Meyers, when I pitched or Matty would, he used to put a piece of

beefsteak in his glove, about that thick. Put it smack in there.

R He would?How did you get along with McGraw?

M Wonderful man. I was sold to Brooklyn for \$7500

and two weeks after I was sold I went over to Brooklyn and asked

[or maybe Bradley]
Slattery/(?) he was the manager ...he says, they're going to

pitch Harvey Neff, the great left-hander, I says, I want to pitch

to show McGraw he made a mistake. He says, no I'm going to use

or Neff
Rafferty (?) ~~xxxx~~ today. I says, no, let me pitch and use Neff

for tomorrow. All right, he says, if you think you can do it.

I says, sure I can do it, I can beat them. I always had it in my

mind that I could beat anybody I wanted to. So we went. The game

starts and everything. We beat them 2 - 1 and McGraw was in the

dugout and he says, you're pretty good! So, when we were there

for a four game series, we beat them in the first game 2 - 1. And

Gus Barnes, who was the great right[hand]er, he beat them the fourth

game, 3-2. I was sold to Brooklyn for \$7500 and ^{McGraw}~~xxxx~~ offered \$30,000

And Robie
for my release. ~~He~~ says, that \$30,000 , that's for those two games.

R You won the pennant for Brooklyn, that year, didn't you.

M Yeah, it was the Giants that was against the Bklyn team.

And I was the one that knocked McGraw out.

R Stengle
Was ~~Faber~~ on that team with you?

M Oh yes, yeah.

R He's still moving, isn't he!

M I pitched a no-hit game against Brooklyn in 1915.

Beat Nap Rucker. And I beat them 2-0. I pitched another against

Philadelphia. I was pitching opening day there, in the Series.

It was 6 - 0, in the 9th inning, two out and two strikes on the

batter and I threw the ball over his head and he raised his bat

and he hit the ball over the third baseman's head and they got a

base hit! I would have had two no-hitters!

R It was a one-hitter. What kind of uniforms did you
wear. Did you buy your own.

M No. They pay all your expenses on the road, and they
buy your uniform too. Had to buy your own shoes and glove and
sweatshirts, that's all.

R What did you do in the off season?

M Well, I went to Europe.

R When you were playing?

M No, no. now. I just got back from a 23 ~~week~~ ^{day} cruise
We went to Africa and around.

R What I meant...when you were on the Giants, what did
you used to do then, in the off seasons?

M Well, I used to go back to...one time I went back
to Cleveland, but my Dad, he couldn't get used to the idea that
I played baseball. But, in 1912 I made a picture with Gladys Joyce
MQ Lewis, Morris Costello and then Billie Holliday.

R You made movies?

M Yes. Then I was in vaudeville for three years.
Blossom Seeley and I we were....I don't know if you've heard of
h~~y~~er..... well, she was my wife and we were in vaudeville for
years. I asked her to quit, I says, I can give you everything.
She says, show business is show business. Well, I said, baseball
is mine. So, we separated. I have a wonderful wife now. My other
wife, we were married 25 years, passed on 8 years ago. But this one
now is very very nice.

R The ball players now, even though young, are kind of
stable and established. Was that true when you broke in?

M Well, the reason they're established now is because they get \$100,000 just for signing a contract, they don't even know if they can play baseball. And if they don't play good... they've got good security. Whereas before...they wouldn't do that. They wouldn't give you peanuts.....

We didn't think much about home runs or home run hitters then. We'd play a game, 2-0 or 2-1. The game would last maybe an hour and a quarter, or an hour and a half.

R You pitched that 23 inning game that took 3-1/2 hours?

M Three and a half hours, yeah. Now, one game is ~~that~~ long. In th~~ese~~ days you'd go to a game at about three o'clock and be home for dinner. Nowadays, they start a game at 3 o'clock and at dinner time they turn on the lights and keep on playing.

We traveled by train in the old days. And the hotels weren't like they are now.

R Did you like the life?

M I loved it. I really loved it. I could start all over again!

R Tell me about those very famous incidents. You were

there when Fred Markle...

M Yes. That was 1908. And they give Johnny Evers all the credit. Merkel was on first base. And the ball was hit and the run scored from third base. And Merkle went down and cut off to the clubhouse. He never touched second base. Jimmery Scheckert, the left fielder came running in with the ball. Johnny Evers kept hollering, what's the matter with you so and so 's, did 'nt you see Merkle didn't touch second base? Well, ~~Jim~~ Jimmy Scheckert wanted to take the ball and as he did Joe McGerrity wrestled Jimmy Scheckert and took the ball and threw it up in the grandstand. Nobody could make a decision about the game. Chance went to the umpire to tell him about it. He says, Merkle didn't touch second and didn't complete the play. The umpire says, where's the ball that was in play. Evers says, McGinnity threw it up into the seats. The umpire says, well I can 't call on the play because the ball isn't here, so I call it a tie. And we lost the pennant.

R I thought it was often in those days that a man didn't touch second.

M It happened in Pittsburgh. Same identical thing.

In 1912, in the World Series, Snodgrass dropped a fly ball. I was back in the bull pen. Matty was pitching, and McGraw says, you go down and get ready, in case they put in a left hand batter, I'll take Matty out and put you in. So, Sweder was at bat. He hit a foul ball between first and second and Merke and Meyers: I got it, I got it, both of them after it. They were that close, but the ball dropped. So the next ball went out to Snodgrass. And I'm standing about two or three feet away. I says, Fred, squeeze that son of a so-and-so, squeeze him. Fred says, I got it. And it went through his fingers. Well, \$60,000 or \$1500 for each man....

R An easy fly ball!

M Yeah, it was just a.....I'd have got it, but , you know, one of those things. Yeah. McGraw was on Broadway that year, and we were kidding around and he says, You know I was walking down the street , down fifth avenue, and he says, something drew my attention to a beautiful photograph, ^{in a show window} and he says, I just saw a \$50,000 muffin.

You know, the way we trained. We had to run all the time. In spring training. That keeps a pitcher in trim. You know, if you're arm is in shape, why just to keep on your toes, to tone up

the muscles in your legs, you run. It's just like with a fire... there must be smoke. If a ballplayer's legs are gone, he can't run, he can't do anything. So, when we 'd go down to spring training, all we'd do is run, run, run. We would train in Texas. We lived in the little hotel, that was 2 miles from the ballplark. The ballpark was along the river and that was two blocks from the hotel. Well, every morning, we'd walk to the railroad track along the river and get in a line and, let's go, and we'd run on out there, for two

When we'd get to the park miles. /We'd take off our shirts, take off our sneakers and put on our baseball shoes and go up to the pitcher's box. "Around the park" "around the park" and hug the fence. Well, even if he was inside and wouldn't be watching, if you were 10 feet away from the fence, he'd come out and say: What's wrong with you, I didn't see you running against the fence, you got the mumps or something like that? Well, after we got all through, got all ~~we~~ our practice in, we'd all go back for lunch. We'd dogtrot in. Two hours later, we'd come back: dogtrot. ^And when we were through for the afternoon, we'd go home from the ballpark -- running! And when the season started, McGraw would say, when he picked you, You're to go nine innings or more! And we'd go nine innings and more. When he

said nine innings or more, he'd say, remember there's no bull pen (he wouldn't say "relief pitchers" - - no bull pen) you're in there! Oh, yes.

R How many men were on a ball club in those days.

M 25. Three or four pitchers. Now they got 8 in the bull pen. /I didn't just pitch fast balls. /I threw slow balls, curves, change of pace. You know you can't always....you got to fool the guys once in a while.

We used to put 5¢ licorace with our tobacco. (We used to chew tobacco) and the licorace and your saliva would go in your hand. You wouldn't rub it all over the ball -- you'd rub it on one side. One side would be black and the other side would be white.

R They didn't take the ball out of the game as much then as they do now.

M Well, we'd play with emory balls and all this and that. Unless it went in the grandstand and we couldn't get it back, we'd be playing with the same ball. The umpire might look at the ball, see a little feather on it, knock it off, and we'd play with the ball.

R After wbeing all those years with the great Giants.. what did you think when McGraw traded you to the Dodgers?

RM Oh, I knew about it. Oh, yeah. I'd had asked him to sell me. I asked him if he would give me a chance to sell myself. You see. So, he says, who wants to buy you? I says, will you give me a chance? Yes, he says. What is your price. He says, \$7500. I sasys, can I use your telephonethere? I'll let you know who I'm going to talk to. You see, I had had a couple of bad days, pitched a couple of bad games and he started harping me about it. Well, I told him, I says, I'd like to get my release, or get you to sell me. I says, I've still got two more years to go on my contract and I won't break the contract, unless you sell me. He says, who wants you. I says, Will you give me a chance? He says, yes. So, I says, will you let me use your telephone? You can hear who I'm going to talk to. He says, yes. So I got a hold of the operator and got the Bklyn ball club. To call Robbie. It was just before he left the clubhouse to go on the field.. He says, hello. I says, Robbie, how are you. He says, fine. Who is this? I says, how would you like to have a good left hand pitcher? He says, I'd love it. Who is it? Who am I talking to? Who's the man? Who are you going to recommend? I says, I'm going to recommend myself! He says, who are you? I says, Rube Marquard.

Oh, he says, why are you kidding me? I says, no, you really can have me for \$7500. He says, you're kidding. I says, McGraw's righ here and he'll talk to you and tell you about it. I says, Mac, Robbie wants to talk to you. He wants to get it from you. Well, he says, as he gets on the telephone, you can have Marquard for seventy-five hundred. So, before he could go out on the field in Bklyn, he called up and ordered a check for \$7500 - and that's when I beat them in two games in the Series. And when I met McGraw, he says, you did'nt do that for me. And I says, you wouldn't let me.

R You weren't traded -- you traded yourself!

M Yeah. And he offerred \$3500 for me at the end of the year.

R How did it feel after all those years of big league pitching when finally your legs couldn't do it any more and finally....

M Well, it's like everything else. You can go just so far and anybody's a sucker who'll try to go further than he possibly can. That's what gives these fellows heart trouble and all this stuff. There's a good friend of mine, not as old as I am, rain or shine, out playing golf. Now, I take my time. If I feel like playing, I play. If the weather's good, I play. If the weather's bad, I

don't.

R What was your last year in the big leagues?

M 1926. 18 years.

R What did it feel like in 1927 when you didn't go
to spring training.

M Well, in 1927, Judge Fuchs and I, we bought a
franchise in Boston. Wooster, Mass. And Casey Stengel was
manager of the Wooster club and they were 15 games out, in last
place. So we bought the franchise and had the same team that
Casey had . Well, the Providence people there, they didn't have
a ball club there for a long time , about 18 years, so the newspaper
men stated commenting. They said, well Judge Fuchs lived in Boston
and got Rube to go in partners with him and move the club over to
Providence, a good baseball town, and Judge Fuchs thinks that by
having Rube as the manager, why, the fans will come out to see them.
I was manager, treasurer and president ! Well, I got a salary for
being the manager, a salary for being the treasurer and a salary
for being the president. That helped my big league salary -- to
even things up.

~~Wxxxx~~

We got everything settled, but the papers kept at it, so I had a meeting with them. I said, now you fellows are causing a panic. Now, Casey Stengle had this ball club. That was really the Wooster Ball Club. The fellows that are here now are on the Providence Ball Club. Don't try to persuade the fans that we don't have a good ball club, so they won't come out to see us play. We paid a lot of money and we're going to have a good ball club. So they all said, Marquard's got a good ball club and all, to get the crowd out, once a week. I can remember one Sunday we had 6600 people. We used to get 1500 on a Saturday or on a Sunday. Well, nobody could understand it. So I said, now, you fellows, I want you to second-guess. I want you to do what I'm going to do with this ball club. I said, now I'm going to take this ball club down to St. Petersburg for 3 weeks and train them and I invite you, your families and your guests down there as guests of the Providence Ball Club. They figured I was ^{trying to bribe} kidding. ~~them~~ I said, I'm not trying to bribe you. You can go, or you can stay home. But I said, now look, I don't want you to be publishing what some other man is writing about the Providence Ball Club. I want you to be right there. So they said they'd think it over and let me know. I said I got to know a week ahead of time so I can arrange transportation and everything and I need to know how many are going.

So a week before we went South they let me know and I took them to St. Petersburg for 3 and a half weeks, and they loved it. They had a wonderful time. Their families and everything...we had a beach. The editors used to be out at the ball park, and they'd say, you're working those kids too hard! Working them too hard? I said, you haven't seen anything yet! I said last year with Casey Stengle this team was 15 games behind. I said, this year if this team doesn't win the pennant, I'll eat your hat. We had one fellow by the name of Ross Schreiber (?) He was a great pitcher...had good material, and things like that. I started working on him, because I knew I'd be able to start him. So I worked on him and I said to him, Russell, I don't think you're ready to go, you only won 5 games and lost 20 last year. He says, well, Casey never taught me anything. / Never told me what to do. All he wanted me to do was hit. I says, well, I'm going to teach you how to get them over. He says, that's what I want to do. Well, that season, he won 22 games and lost 7 and we played a game in Pittsfield, Mass, a double header, and he pitched the first game. After the game was over, he went back into the clubhouse and I stayed out on the field, talking to a couple of the players. So, when I got into the clubhouse, I

looked around and I saw Foster (maybe his name was Foster, not Schreiber) there. I said, Foster, you've _____, I was talking to so and so, a couple of outfielders and they said Rube, you better not pitch Foster again, he's duck soup. We can't understand how he got away with getting only 3 hits. He's the worst. So Foster says, Is that right? He says, could i pitch the next game? So after the game, after the last out, he stood on the mound and says, so you fellows told Rube what a lousy pitcher I was, well what do you think of me ~~xx~~ now? He says, you so and sos! So, when he was all dressed, I called him over, looked in my back pocket and gave him \$50 and said, you pitched a good game, now get yourself a suit of clothes. And I sold him to the Boston ball club for \$40,000! I sold \$90,000 worth of ballplayers; I sold infielders, outfielders had \$90,000 worth of ball club!

R Too bad the minors can't do that anymore.Tell me after all your pitching. How good are umpires? Are they usually right or usually wrong?

M Well, I'll tell you. The old umpires, I used to love to have them! Bill Klem, Charleé Riggers, Hank O"Day, Otto Wembsy, whenever I found they were wrong....got a lot of homers, you

know, they....Bill Klem claimed he never missed a ball. ⁹In 1912, my 19 consecutive games. I had 16, when we were in Chicago, and Joe Tinker was up at bat. ~~W~~ I gave him an outside curve, and it was ~~called~~ a strike -- Klem called it a ball. Meyers looked up and says, you blind robber, it's a strike! Oh, was Klem mad. McGraw was sitting on the bench, and he says, Chief, he says, where was that ball. Right over the plate, says the Chief. And then they went back and forth: you so and so, you so and so -- McGraw and Klem. So, we let that stand, anyway, and the next inning, I was the first one up at bat. So Klem comes up, turns his back to the outfield/^{dusts off the plate}and says, Marquard, I been umpiring in back of you for many a year and you never got me into trouble, you never disagreed with my decisions on balls and strikes: where was that ball! I says, well, it was outside. Oh, he says, you so and so, and he calls McGraw, take this so and so out. I says, I didn't say it wasn't over the plate, I just said it was outside, but over.

Well, the same ball I pitched to Tinker I pitched next time to Sherwood -- and he called it a strike! But oh you can't argue with the umpires, if you argue you get thrown out of the game.

I never got thrown out of a game. I never have! In 1916 in Baltimore, in a double header, near the ^{vary last} end of the season, and Philadelphia had to win two of them and we had to win one of them. Pfeffer was to pitch the first game against Eppa Rixey and I was to pitch the second game against Alexander. Pfferrer pitched the first game and I was in the clubhouse wight through the first game, ~~and~~ I never went out therer, the park was so crowded, they couldn't get any more in the park, and I knew the ballplayers were very nervous and all that. Pfeffer lost the first game 3 -2. And after the game averyone was all nervous and everything and a lot of the players, said, where were you. I says, here I was, why? They says, you' ^{know you're} ~~xxxxxx~~ xpitching? I says, sure I'm pitching. I'm going to win, too! They says, there's Alex coming out. I says, well, tell him I'm coming out and I'm going to beat him! Well the players were all inside getting into clean shirts and everything. ^{Robbie Rube} I says, ~~xxxx~~ it's time to go out to warm up, ~~txkx~~ ~~mx~~ I says, all right. So I picked up my glove and nonchalantly walked out . I started to warm up, and Alexander was warming up, too. You could take a pin and drop it, it was so quiet. So every once in a while we'd look at each other, and I said, Too bad I'm going

to beat you this game! Well, Alex says, you so and so, you, you couldn't beat a ~~am~~ drum!

So, the games starts. Nothing-nothing, up to the eighth inning! Chief Meyers gets a base hit....no...Otto Miller gets a base hit.

Next man up sacrifices and we're on second base. Chief Meyers gets up to the plate...and he walks him. They had an umpire

back of the plage and when they walked Meyers ~~they~~ ^{I says} called time.

They says, for what. I says, call time! And get out of the box.

He says, what do you want time for? I says, call time, ^{I'm not going anywhere,} /I want

to tell they guy up in the box what I'm going to do. Bill Killefer

he was back of the plate, he says, come on in, come on in. ~~Iksayk~~,

He says, Alex will throw three by you, you'll never see them!

I says, nothing doing. I says, you can come out too, and listen

to what I've got to say. So I walked half way and he walked half way with me, to the pitcher's box, and Bill Klem, the umpire, too.

So I says, I've been waiting for this game all season long. ~~Ixx~~ haven't got a hit yet. All season. So, no matter where or how you pitch em,

I'm going to hit em over Bedford Avenue there, out of the park/

Aw, he says, you make me sick! Well, I says, I am going to make you sick!

Well, I went back to bat, and the umpire comes over and says, I've been in ballparks for a long time, but I've never seen anyone stop a game to go to tell the pitcher what you're going to do: hit it out of center field! Well, I says, I might hit it over the flagpole, Bill, I don't know. Well, he says, play ball. and the pitch comes and I hit it in center field, over the flagpole, and got a three-bagger on it, Chief Meyers and the other fellow get home and I'm sitting on third base chuckling away. So Alex comes over, and he kicks his hat . He says, you so and so, you. He says, I don't mind your getting a hit, he says, but the reason I'm tipping my hat to you is you came out and told me what you were going to do! I says, you should have walked me, Alex!

So, Frank Meyers, the center fielder came up and got a long fly and I scored. I beat them 3 - 0. I couldn't get out of the ball park for about an hour and a half. They took my shoes and every thing! I was almost naked. They tore my clothes off me.

I was pitching in 1912, in the World Series, in Boston, and ^{Meyers} Ed Fitzgerald, he had a group called the Wheelers, and their ~~xxxx~~ theme song was Tessie. And they had a brass band in the center of the grandstand and one in the right field bleachers, and one on the

in the left field bleachers and one in the center field bleachers and every time Boston would come to bat, all these bands would blare off and play TESSIE and the Boston fans would all sing TESSIE.

That was the game I beat them 2-1. That was a game where ~~we had~~ ^{were waiting for}

^{our} taxis to take us back to the hotel, and little Josh Devore, our right firledercome up to me and handed me the ball...the winning ball and he says, Rube, you pitched a marvelous ball game, how in the so and so could you ~~figure~~ pitch with all that noise? I says, what noise? He says, what do you mean, what noise..did you have cotton in your ears? I says, Josh, you know, when you pitch, you know that every batter that comes up has got a weakness, and if you don't concentrate on the batter that's up there, how you're goint to pitch and where you're going to pitch, if you'd rather listen to TESSIE, you're going to ^{get your brain knocked out} ~~lose the game~~. I says, I concentrate on every one of those boys that came up and that's the reason ~~you~~ they pay me. Well, someone standing by me, scratched his head and said, that's something I can't understand. I says, why can't you understand that, mister. You look like a business man. He says, yes. I says, do you have an office. Do you go out and do your business, or do you have people come into your office? He says,

We have quite a large office. We have about 7 or 8 stenographers and a lot of excitement and we do a lot of business. I says, what kind of business do you have? He says, so and so, and we have a lot of buyers coming in all the time and all. I says, I suppose when the buyers come in you talk to them and dictate to the stenographers and give directions all at the same time? He says, no, of course not, we take the buyers to our special office. Well, I says, you see, you can't do two things at one time -- you've got to concentrate. You've got to concerntrate.

R When you pitched a game and during the game when the fans would cheer or boo you, did it affect you in any way?

M No

R You didn't even hear it?

M NO . I pitched a game, and I was knocked out of the box in the fourth inning, and I was walking down from the bench to the clubhouse. In the Polo Grounds you have to walk by the field to the clubhouse. The fans in the grandstand and in the boxes were all right, but when I got to the bleachers, oh idi they give it to me. Oh, you so and so. Who ever said you could pitch ball. I stood there laughing at them and then motioned to them that

I had to tell them something. I said, wait a minute, I want to tell you something. They said, what have you got to say? I said, well, I'll tell you what I've got to say: You're coming out agains tomorrow? -- it was on a Saturady -- I said, you're coming out ~~xxx~~ on Monday? We didn't have Sunday basebal 1 at that time. They said, yes, why do you ask us if we're coming out Monday? I says, I'km going to pitch Monday. They said, we're going to stay home!

Well, Monday, I pitched against Phila. and I beat them. I pitched a marvelous game and all those fans that were there on Saturday, came over to me and said, we believe you, we believe you, you can pitch!

You know, if you kid with them, it's all right. If you're sarcastic with them, then they're really on you. But if you just let it drop off and say, well tomorrow's another day, and there'll be another ballgame, they won't get after you.

R You never took them too seriously.

M No, no. The fans were kind to me, were wonderful to me and I enjoyed every bit of it. ~~Never~~ And I've got my health, always have.

never
You know, we were ~~always~~ elbow benders. You go into a bar, you
know. You can't do that, you know. They/^{never}used to, like today,
go out at night, and I was anlike Kubeck and all.

R Now, you're not going to tell us that none of the old days
y used to carouse and drink?

M Well, no. We had a fellow, Bugs Raymond. McGraw ysed to
have a keeper, to get him to the hotel and put him to bed. He
had a private room, and/^{he would}lock him in. McGraw was at the hotel,
on the first floor. We were in St. Louis that day, and about
9 oclock we were all sitting down in the court, it was a hot
nithgt and it was cooler in the court. St. Louis is hot. You
could take an egg and fry it on the sidewalk, really. Well, anyway,
we're all sitting there, the keeper too, and McGraw says, where's
Bugs, and the keeper says, he's in the room, I've got the key. And
McGraw says, I'll bet you he's not in that room. He says, want you
mean, he's not in his room. He says, want to bet on it? So we
all went up to the room and sure enough, he was gone. The back of
the hotel was, like an alley,h and him on the first floor, all he
does is shimmy down and get out of there. He went over to East St.
Louis, they've got a lot of drinking bums ofer there, and that's

his keeper got him again. Well, the keeper got in a cab and went looking for him. He found him in one of these places, you know, real tough. Well, the next day Raymond came out on the ball park with a big black eye.

McGraw says, where'd you get that? He says, I didn't bump into a wall, he says, my keeper did it! McGraw says, your keeper. Why'd your keeper do it. Raymond says, well, when he came in this place looking for me, I told the gang there, here's my keeper, he wants to take me home and back to bed. So they went at him and he threw this big guy over against the bar and he hit me. McGraw says, too bad he didn't hit you in the other eye too.

We had to be in at 11 o'clock at night. We were all on one floor, and at 11 o'clock the trainer and McGraw would come up, go into each room and say, Mathewson, Marquard, check, and then he'd lock the door. Oh, yes, they'd lock the door if the players weren't in at that time. If a player came in later, he'd go down and get the key from McGraw's room. He kept the keys. And if you were late you'd have to go to his room to get the key.

But Alexander, well, he was a very great pitcher and the drunker he was the better he could pitch. And Raymond was the same way.

Raymond was a spit-ball pitcher. He pitched better ~~was~~ when he was drinking. He'd tellyou, if I have 15 drinks under my belt, I'm okay.

You've got to remember things and details. You've got to remember every batter that comes up before you. I can remember all of them. You've got to know them. You can't guess, you know. You can't hesitate where you're going to throw to them. That's in ~~there~~ their minds when they come up, where' re you going to throw them. If there's a man on base and a good hitter up, you've got to turn that ball, you've got to keep him from scoring, see.

I don't know what number I ever wore. We didn't have any number at all. No number on the back. Never did.

R By the 'twenties you had numbers, didn't you?

M Oh, yeah.

R But you didn't have any particular one?

M No, never did.

R When you first came up to the Giants, you didn't get any numbers? They had no numbers?

M No. When we played, every time you'd come to bat, we had

an announcer to say who was a t bat.

I remember one time, before I pitched my 19 games. It was a really hot day. I was sitting out on the bench. There was a little path and a runway to where they had the concessions in the ballpark. I saw Stevens, who owned the concessions. He was sitting in the press box. He saw me and said to come over. He was sitting back of where they were selling peanuts and popcorn and all. And he told one of the concession boys to take one of the big palm leaves on top of the concession stand off, and fan him. Well, they had these long poles out from the wall and had a big palm leaf over them. So he had this boy fanning him with this big palm fan. and I went out every inning and got ~~xxxx~~ cooled too. The dugout was too hit.

One old-timers game they gave me a silver play~~er~~er with my name engraved on there, up at Yankee stadium. And I got one of them, what do you call it, 10 second pictures, Polaroids. And one of those transistor radios.

R Sometimes you read, in the old days, if there was a hot pennant race, say with the Giants, and they'd go to the opposition city, there'd be all kinds of trouble. Is that so?

M No. We used to pack them in. We used to pack 'em in. They suded to get on McGraw -- call him Muggsy, and all this and that. But we'd get to say Chicago and all the fans would have signs sayings Muggsy McGraw. And they, one time, they must have collected sll the dogs around for about a months, because when we got ready to play, and the batterry was announced, about 100 or so dogs were let loose and come running out, through the firld, on to the baz boxes, knocking into the grandstand!